ABOUT US

The Arab-American Family Support Center (AAFSC) is a non-profit, non-sectarian organization created in 1994 to provide culturally and linguistically competent, trauma-informed social services to low-income immigrants and refugees in New York City.

While our doors are open to all, over 27 years, we have developed expertise serving low-income Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian (AMEMSA) immigrant populations. These communities must overcome poverty, discrimination, and trauma to thrive, yet face linguistic and cultural barriers to accessing services and support. Our staff speak 36 languages and counting – including Arabic, Bangla, French, Hindi, Nepali, Spanish, and Urdu – enabling us to serve populations that mainstream providers struggle to reach.

AAFSC offers services out of 13 physical locations and provides in-home case management to families in every neighborhood of New York City. First established in Brooklyn, AAFSC has expanded across the five boroughs in response to community needs. This past year, we welcomed clients to our new community centers in the Bronx and Queens and we are eager to open our Atlantic Avenue location in January 2021. Since 2017, we have offered services at NYC Family Justice Centers across all five boroughs. We are also a founding partner of the Khalil Gibran International Academy and co-locate at several NYC public schools as well as Maimonides Medical Center.

AAFSC'S VISION

Our vision is more pressing today than ever: striving for a socially just society where all immigrants can fully partake as Americans. We pursue our vision across all priority areas and structure our activities around impact and outcomes.
Driven by a strong commitment to embrace the most vulnerable New Yorkers, the Arab–American Family Support Center prides itself on providing immigrant and refugee families with a variety of social services. Each day, we amplify the voices of our community and we collaborate with partners to ensure their needs are met. AAFSC is a catalyst for social change and a hub for transformative opportunities. We are a learning organization – responsive in expanding our initiatives.

By standing with AAFSC, you are supporting essential work and championing the rights of immigrant families. Thank you for your commitment to us!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Naseem Haffar</td>
<td>Board Chair, Private Investor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Brogan</td>
<td>Treasurer, Poetry Society of America</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeanine Shama</td>
<td>Secretary, Allen &amp; Company LLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Pollak</td>
<td>Reverence Capital Partners</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Tayeh</td>
<td>BoBye List, Nonprofit Consultant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mohamed El Beih</td>
<td>Weekend Guardian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angelo Gordon</td>
<td>Global Citizens Initiative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rita Gail Johnson</td>
<td>Educator</td>
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<td>Roberta Baum</td>
<td>Google</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shahla Naimi</td>
<td>Google</td>
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<tr>
<td>Susan Peters</td>
<td>Twelve Letter Films</td>
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<td>Bobye List</td>
<td>Nonprofit Consultant</td>
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AHMAD SHAIBANI
NYC EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

KARIM
BABOUDER-MATTA
FORD FOUNDATION

KWAME FYNN
GOLDMAN SACHS

JENNA BHALOOG
PHARMERIT INTERNATIONAL

MARGARET RIORDAN
CHANGING OUR WORLD

LAUREN ABUNASSAR
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

JOSEPH TADROS
MOTT HALL V

MONA HADIDI
CLOUDFLARE

RACHEL AICHER
USAID

KAREEMA WHITFIELD
PROFESSOR OF SOCIAL WORK

FAISAL HADI
JLL
OUR RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

ROBERTA BAUM
CHAIR

NASSEEM HAFFAR

KAREN TAYEH

ABIGAIL BEDRICK

MOHAMED EL BEIH

SUSAN RESTLER
OUR STAFF

36 languages spoken across the agency.

46% identify as an immigrant/refugee/asylee.

60% identify as the child of an immigrant/refugee/asylee.

OUR DIVERSITY

South Asian 31%

White/European 19%

East Asian 2%

Central Asian 2%

Latinx 6%

Native American 1%

Middle East/North African 31%

Black/African 8%

South Asian 31%
We are proud to provide in-home services in every neighborhood of New York City.
Our Priority Areas

**Prevent**

- We strengthen families, prevent child abuse, and work to end domestic and gender-based violence.
  - Preventive Program
  - Anti-Violence Program

**Promote**

- We promote wellness, family reunification, restorative justice, equity, and fair policies.
  - Community Health & Well-Being Program
  - Reclaiming Our Health
  - Legal Services
  - Emergency Relief Fund

**Get Ready**

- We prepare families to learn, work, succeed, give back, and lead healthy, productive lives.
  - Adult Readiness Program
  - Young Adult & Youth Program (including AYWA and MENar initiatives)
  - Caregiver-Child Bonding Circle

**Communicate**

- We amplify the voices of marginalized, underresourced communities and share our knowledge.
  - City-Wide Advocacy
  - Amplifying the Community's Voices
  - AAFSC Research Institute
## OUR PROGRAMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th># Served</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ESOL Classes (Co-Ed &amp; Women)</td>
<td></td>
<td>English language lessons and job readiness support.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Citizenship Prep Classes</td>
<td></td>
<td>Civics lessons and one-on-one prep support.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caregiver-Child Bonding Circles</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bonding classes and support for early childhood development for parents/caregivers and children 0-3.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth &amp; Young Adult Program</td>
<td></td>
<td>Life and academic support for young people.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preventive Program*</td>
<td>707 families</td>
<td>Home-based family counseling and support services.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anti-Violence Program</td>
<td></td>
<td>Support and legal advocacy for survivors of domestic and gender-based violence.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legal Services Program</td>
<td></td>
<td>Support with immigration applications and legal aid.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Health &amp; Well-Being Program</td>
<td></td>
<td>Connection to free or low-cost healthcare, mental health services, and nutritious food.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reclaiming Our Health</td>
<td></td>
<td>Destigmatizing mental health in immigrant communities and connection to resources.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emergency Relief Fund</td>
<td></td>
<td>Financial aid for vulnerable community members.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communication Initiatives</td>
<td></td>
<td>Outreach and public education initiatives in response to policy changes.</td>
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PREVENTIVE SERVICES

SOLUTION-BASED CASEWORK

Solutions Based Casework (SBC) is an evidence-informed casework practice model that prioritizes working in partnership with families, focuses on pragmatic solutions to difficult situations, and notices and celebrates change.

FUNCTIONAL FAMILY THERAPY

Through Functional Family Therapy (FFT), AAFSC offers therapeutic services to families impacted by behavioral challenges. Our therapists work with youth ages 11-18 and their families, utilizing motivational tactics to drive behavioral change.

AAFSC partners with the NYC Administration for Children's Services to support families when there have been instances of child abuse or neglect. We practice two evidence-based models:
OUR COVID-19 IMPACT

SINCE MARCH 2020:

$500,000+ IN EMERGENCY FUNDS
distributed to 2,500 individuals.

6,516 CRISIS INTERVENTION SERVICES
provided to survivors of domestic & gender-based violence.

15,842 HOME VISITS
to ensure children remain safe when there have been
instances of child abuse and neglect. AAFSC provided staff
with personal protective equipment to ensure the safety of
clients and team members.

464% ENROLLMENT INCREASE
in our remote adult education initiatives.

400+ COVID-19 VACCINE APPOINTMENTS
made through our COVID-19 outreach & education initiatives,
providing information on prevention, testing, and vaccine efficacy.

2,086 COUNSELING SESSIONS
provided in our mental health initiative to help individuals
overcome the negative effects of trauma and discrimination.

7,506 CLIENTS
received mental health counseling, healthcare enrollment,
food security assistance and legal services.
In 2021, AAFSC launched our Research Institute to enhance knowledge about communities regularly rendered invisible. As a learning organization, we are committed to measuring our impact through both outputs and outcomes and utilizing culturally and linguistically appropriate evaluation practices to ensure we are generating tangible impact and responding to emerging community needs.

WE PUBLISH:

- Community Needs Assessments
- Program Evaluation Reports
- Original Research on AMEMSA Communities

To read the full suite of AAFSC Research Institute Publications, visit aafscny.org/our-impact
Starting all over again is a difficult task, but with constant encouragement and motivation from AAFSC's team, I’m able to start from scratch. I’m picking up all the pieces and putting them together to make a new beginning for myself and my children. I’m thankful to AAFSC for being my shining armor and for the unconditional support and guidance that I have received. I’m positive that the days ahead will be brighter for me.

- MS. MIRA

CLIENT OF AAFSC'S WRAP-AROUND SERVICES
AS FEATURED ON

The New York Times

npr

HUFFPOST

USA TODAY

Bklyner

The Guardian

THE NEW YORKER

teen Vogue

...and more.
FOUNDED BY THE ARAB-AMERICAN COMMUNITY.
OPEN TO ALL.